



**Van Asselt Community Center  
Public Meeting #2  
November 16, 2004  
Meeting Notes**

**PAT Members Present:** Joy Moro; Richard Enstadt; Mark Manuel; Kenneth Yu; Ed Rose; Jenny Chung.

**Guests present:** Ron Wright and Jorge Barrero, and Denise Dana, project architects; Aaron Power, project artist; Marcia Iwasaki, City of Seattle Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs.

**Staff Present:** Dan Johnson, Parks Project Manager; Karen Lynch, Parks Public Relations Specialist; Katie Gray, Southwest Sector Manager; Clint Hooper, Center Coordinator, and Ryan Nakanishi, Assistant Center Coordinator.

**6:30 – 6:45 p.m.** Reviewed schematic designs on display, and enjoyed pizza.

**6:45 p.m.** Dan introduced himself, the PAT members and project architects. The PAT members spoke about their experience on the PAT. They were excited about the opportunity and want to continue to give input. They said it is a good learning experience. They were very glad to see all the young people at this meeting and welcomed their participation. They also expressed excitement about the exterior artwork and regard it as a great addition to the community which complements other new redevelopment going on around the North Holly/Othello neighborhood. They commented that this is a challenging project.

**6:50 p.m.** Dan gave a brief review of the last PAT meeting. He made a shopping cart budget analogy: trying to get as much as possible of what we “want” within a finite budget. He also thanked the Community Center Managers, Clint and Ryan, for their operational expertise and specific input on the PAT.

Ron Wright, project architect, presented the schematic design review and brief summary of the rationale for design and what size spaces have resulted. Eight design boards were on display along with a current construction schedule. Ron discussed gym improvements including more windows above for spectators to see into the gym, and mechanical spaces that need to be on gym level such as the electrical room, elevator machine room and storage; there also needs to be space in the gym for seating/sitting. The main level will include the multi-purpose room which will have mirrors and a maple sprung floor, the kitchen, the child care space which will have its own restroom, storage space, office space, and teen room. We were also able to keep the outside restrooms. Ron explained the exterior insulation, the inside insulation and

“rainscreen” on the outside similar to the one at Jefferson CC gym. He said they are looking at colored glass panels for the building exterior and/or photovoltaic (solar) panels. They are installing brand new building systems, including the restrooms in the existing spaces so that the entire facility is remodeled

Ron briefly reviewed the project schedule. He and his staff are spending a lot of time currently to produce construction drawings. Construction should begin in June or July, 2005. He also explained the ADA requirement which resulted in having an elevator.

**7:10 p.m.** Aaron (A.J.) Power presented preliminary entrance area art designs, and explained the idea of creating memories. He showed two boards with designs that the PAT liked best, and talked about diversity and interactivity, the two main factors he is focused on. He explained his painting background. Also he discussed the metaphor of nest-building which relate to the bowls (to collect building water run-off) and the concept of a spool. He asked everyone to view the two choices at the end of the meeting and vote for the design they liked best.

**7:20 p.m.** Dan explained the Pro Parks opportunity fund grant (letter of intent) and why we need supplemental funds. Monika Matthews, who submitted the letter of intent explained her desire to beautify and improve the external play area, wading pool and basketball courts. Charlotte Shucraft and Monika will be completing the grant application; Monika requested others' assistance. The Opportunity Fund application is due in February, 2005.

Dan also covered a Sonics grant which will add to current budget and make possible improvements to the current outside basketball courts; the Sonics and the Storm work throughout the city for kids and look at this type of request as a priority. The Sonics grant will be a matching grant which means we have to match the funds they provide. Dan explained reasons *not* to move the courts; next step is to determine how to use the funds. Ron/Dan will meet with the Sonics in the next two weeks to discuss the uses of the funds, to help determine amount of the grant. Also, Clint/Ryan initiated talking to Lowe's Hardware who are likely to give \$10,000 for play area once we apply for their grant.

(Later in 2005 we'll plan to put a plaque to thank Sonics and others i.e. Lowe's Hardware.)

Dan covered the things Parks can do at VACC to create “free electricity” for sustainability and “green building” standards, such as solar power and rainwater collection.

Katie Gray talked about building closure next year; looking now for alternate locations for program activities such as child care, basketball, etc. She asked for input regarding where to relocate and said we will be partnering with SHA and Seattle Public Schools. The staff will relocate at other facilities while construction is happening. Clint will return to Van Asselt at least

two months before the facility reopens next fall; equipment and furniture will be ready so that new programs and existing programming can begin immediately; when the facility opens, it will be ready to go. Decisions will be made between now and next June on interim programming.

**7:45 p.m.** Thanks and conclusion. About twenty kids (ages 4 -18) attended the entire meeting; Dan thanked them especially for coming to listen and for their input.

**7:50 – 8:30 p.m.** Questions and answer session for everyone. Display /designs were briefly discussed boards, and Dan and Katie, Aaron, Ron Wright and Monika all took specific questions about topics they covered during the meeting. (A comment was made that parents at the center want to retain Clint/Ryan as staff next year; they have a comfort level with this staff and trust them with their kids. Katie responded that Clint Hooper will begin working from his reassigned location approximately 2 months prior to the center's re-opening, focused on equipment ordering, an opening celebration, and program development for Van Asselt CC.)

Votes were tallied on the two exterior art options presented; Option A ("Spool") was chosen.

**8:30 p.m. Meeting was adjourned.**

Minutes are posted on the project's web page:

[http://www.cityofseattle.net/parks/Centers/current/Van\\_Asselt\\_Community\\_Center.htm](http://www.cityofseattle.net/parks/Centers/current/Van_Asselt_Community_Center.htm)